CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LONG BEACH ◆ VOL. LXVIII, ISSUE 64 | FEBRUARY 15, 2017

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY LONG BEACH LIBRARY ARCHIVES

Daily 49er



Jose De Castro | Daily 49er

Elmer Guevara takes a moment to appreciate his artwork called "Lala" in the northeast corner of the Gatov Gallery.

FINDING BEAUTY IN EVERY CORNER

Touching on issues of material objects and the value they hold over some human lives, two Cal State Long Beach BFA students showcase works inspired by the overlooked and forgotten. **Elmer Guevara** and **Robert Nehemiah** join forces in "Immaterial," an exhibit currently hosted at the Gatov West gallery on upper campus. The unconventional subjects and media highlight the very communities most often kept in the dark. For more on "Immaterial," **see page 4**.

LBSU SPORTS

'It's a big, big deal.'

Long Beach State softball and soccer teams get $200,000 donation.

By Matthew Simon
Sports Editor

With a need for locker rooms, Long Beach State announced that the softball and women's soccer received a $200,000 commitment from Long Beach State Board of Directors members Doug and Sandra Leafstedt.

Along with the sizeable gift from Leafstedts, the donation was matched by the college with support from President Jane Close Conoley.

The total $400,000 will be able to cover a large portion of the estimated cost to build a clubhouse for the women's soccer and softball teams.

The two currently do not have facilities of their own so, the clubhouse will allow the women's soccer team and softball team to have locker rooms after the two current-

see **MONEY** page 2

CRIME BLOTTER

Parking structure elevator tagged

By Adam R. Thomas
Staff Writer

Graffiti on parking lot elevator

An act of vandalism in Parking Structure 3 was reported to the University Police Department Monday night. The vandalism was graffiti on the northwest second floor elevator that appears to spell the word "DID."

According to Ricardo Solano, an assistant manager of CSULB's Physical Planning & Facilities Management department, the graffiti took about one hour to be removed by campus staff.

Student won't call mom, cops check in

UPD received a call from a concerned mother to perform a welfare check on a student on Saturday morning. The student hadn't called their mother in some time, Lieutenant Richard Goodwin of the UPD said. After following up on leads, UPD located the student who turned out to be completely fine.

"They were able to locate the individual, safe and sound," Goodwin said. "That's the way I like it – when everything ends up good."

Student grabbed in parking lot

A female student reported being grabbed inappropriately by a male subject in the residential parking lot at the Hillside dorms last Friday night.

see **BLOTTER**, page 3



Photo courtesy of Physical Planning & Facilities Management

Graffiti was found on the northwest second floor elevator in Parking Structure 3. It appears to spell the word "DID."

ASI

Board of Control adjusts budget

Vice President Stephens wants to get serious about campus sustainability.

By Luke Ramirez
Staff Writer

The Associated Students, Inc. Board of Control met Tuesday to hear a proposal from Vice President Mary Stephens regarding a new recycling center, as well as to discuss department budget adjustments.

Following grant application hearings, Stephens took the floor to introduce the topic of partnering with ASI in efforts to build on the recycling center on campus and turn it into a sustainability center.

"We want to look more into composting and embarking in a zero waste program," said David Salazar, the associate vice president of physical planning and facilities management. "We want to establish a center that is long overdue."

see **BUDGET**, page 2

CRIME

Transient harasses students on campus shuttle

The man had a previous run-in with University Police earlier in the morning.

By Zulema Suarez
Staff Writer

A man not registered as a Cal State Long Beach student was kicked off the East Loop shuttle Monday morning for harassing students.

Shuttle driver Elia Lopez, known as Maria, recalls the incident as scary and unsafe.

"It was so weird because when he got on, he blended in with the rest of the students. At one of the stops, one of the girls was getting off and when she passed by me, she said, 'You know you have a guy in the back of the shuttle?' and I said, 'Yes,' and she said, 'Well he's touching himself,' and all I responded was, 'Oh okay,' and that's when I called BJ," Lopez said.

Lopez says she did not want to communicate the entire story on the phone to her boss so she would not cause a panic with the students on the shuttle.

"The man had been sitting in the back between two girls touching himself, but I just told [BJ] that I was having an issue with one of the people on the shuttle and he showed up right away to take care of it."

Lopez also recalls the suspect having a newspaper with him.

"It was scary because he had a newspaper with him and he left it in the back and when I went to go get it, it was all cut up, so I'm just hoping he didn't have a knife on him," she said.

When BJ showed up, he asked what direction the suspect went in and saw him from a distance. BJ was able to approach the suspect and call the University Police Department in order for him to be arrested.



Bobby Yagake | Daily 49er
Students board the East Loop Shuttle near Brotman Hall.

The same suspect had encountered campus police just a few hours before.

"Day shift [officers] came into contact with that gentlemen in a female restroom on campus," said Detective Chris Brown of the UPD. "They issued him a citation for violation of the Long Beach municipal code for being in an opposite sex restroom and released him from the scene."

Brown said that incident in the women's restroom occurred around 6 a.m. while the call from the bus drivers came in between 9:30 and 10 a.m.

According to Brown, there was no report of a sexual element to the shuttle disturbance.

"[BJ] told our dispatchers that the individual was making comments to other students that made them uncomfortable," Brown said. "When the driver realized he was a transient and wasn't a student, that's when she kicked him off the shuttle bus. At no time did the bus driver indicate to us that the individual was masturbating or exposing himself."

Adam R. Thomas contributed to this article.

DISCUSSION

Inviting informative discussion at Black Herstories

Black womanhood was the focus of the night.

By Isabel Ramos
Staff Writer

The Black Herstories event in the University Student Union ballrooms started with a non-public "sister circle," an intimate gathering for black women to express their experiences with their identities. This circle was used as a way to guide the open discussion that took place afterward at 6 p.m.

Students were invited to learn and engage in discussion about the representation of black women in media at the Black Herstories event Monday night. The conversation started with how this event came to be. Jon Higgins, the assistant director of multicultural affairs, started this event last year to open a forum for black women to discuss their thoughts on how black women are represented in the media. Higgins realized there was an opportunity to open up the discussion to all students.

"To have the critical conversation and have it be impactful we need to invite all the stakeholders," said Maleta Wilson, assistant director of Greek life and Title IX education.

Higgins started with a presentation of the history of black women in the media.

"Black women in media were always a side character," Higgins said. "Not a person, but an accessory."

The overwhelming response of the representation by attendees was that it was mostly negative.

"Our 'natural' is unacceptable," Brea Roberts, a first year student development in higher education graduate student, said in regards to the way black women are framed in media.

Speakers and attendees agreed

see **STORIES**, page 3

BUDGET

continued from page 1

Stephens later requested that the ASI identify students, staff and other organizations that would be willing to cooperate in the university's efforts to improve the recycling center.

"It's more than just talking, we would really like some commitment to sitting down with us to think about how we go forward together," Stephens said.

While Stephens seemed eager to begin taking serious steps toward a sustainability center on campus, she made it clear that the university does not have any specific plans at this time. ASI will invite Stephens and the administration back to a future meeting for a more in-depth presentation on what the university has planned.

Later in the meeting, the board went into lengthy discussion on revising the student department budget. ASI Treasurer Giovanni Smith made it clear that funds allocated to, but not used by, particular departments would be moved to departments that went over budget or the Current Year Unallocated Funds.

The department that went over budget most in the past year was KBEACH student radio, by a margin of $5,170.

"Why are we giving the department the money that they overspent?" said Sharon Taylor, associate vice president of financial management. "We all have to live within a budget."

The CYUF will see an increase in $8,756 from the budget adjustment, allowing for more flexibility on student travel grants and other things that come across the BOC's path. Smith was very excited about the additional funds allocated to the CYUF, claiming that one of his main priorities as ASI Treasurer is to have as much money possible for "new and exciting" programs and events for students.

MONEY

continued from page 1

-ly do not have set facilities.

According to the statement LBSU Athletics released, the teams have been using the Walter Pyramid or Gold Mine gym as their locker room facilities.

"We want to make a major gift, here and now, because we want to see these teams thrive," Doug Leafstedt said in the statement. "I asked Kim [Sowder] and Mauricio [Ingrassia] 'What do you teams need?' and they both said 'We've got to get locker rooms.' So we set aside a certain amount of money that could be matched in a way that could encourage a lot of people to give — the more the better."

> "The clubhouse is important because it shows a commitment from our University. It shows a commitment from the community that we're serious about competing at a national level."
>
> *-Mauricio Ingrassia, Women's soccer coach*

The clubhouse will be built in an area that will make the facility easily accessible for each team. The facility will also include lockers, sports medicine area and team rooms for both programs.

"It's a place where we can bring recruits and really show them what our culture is about," Sowder said in the release. "It's a big, big deal."

Now with some monetary momentum, LBSU will now look to challenge the community to help reach the project's financial goal.

Women's soccer coach Mauricio Ingrassia also noted how the facilities show future prospects the college's commitment to helping the athletic department.

"The clubhouse is important because it shows a commitment from our University," Ingrassia said in the statement. "It shows a commitment from the community that we're serious about competing at a national level."

BLOTTER

continued from page 1

The male subject was a CSULB graduate and was a stranger to the female student, Goodwin said.

"What we are looking at in this case is - 'Do we have a predator? Do we have a threat to the university? Do we have an ongoing threat?'" Goodwin said. "None of which we had. The person was identified, a statement was made, and it's currently being looked at by investigations. The victim was non-desirous of prosecution."

Arrest near Beachside

UPD received a call for assistance from the Long Beach Police Department on domestic disturbance call taking place near the Beachside dorms. UPD officers arrested a female suspect who had been reported to the LBPD by a 25 year-old male victim. The suspect was taken to the Long Beach City jail.

More racial vandalism in men's bathrooms

There were two cases of vandalism involving racial slurs being written on the walls of men's bathrooms last week. The first case was in the University Student Union bathroom near the Sbarro restaurant, and was reported to the UPD on Feb. 8. The second case was in Liberal Arts 5, and was reported Feb. 9.

"We try to remove graffiti as soon as possible," Solano said via email. "Especially if it is racially motivated or explicit in nature."

Neither Goodwin or Solano could clarify which ethnic group the racial slurs were targeted at. Solano said the graffiti was removed by the custodial crew before he became aware of the content, though he was informed that the slurs were "very upsetting."

Goodwin said that UPD detectives are looking into both cases, and that as of right now they did not seem to be directly related to one another.

"Without somebody telling us that they saw somebody or somebody witnessing something, there's not much to go on," Goodwin said. "I have no mention that it looks like the same handwriting, leaving us to presume that it's different people."

HEALTH

Campus health groups provide HIV testing

The event aimed to inform students on sexual safety.

By Matthew Ramirez
Staff Writer

Students from the Cal State Long Beach Center for Latino Community Health held an informational event Tuesday on upper campus to educate the community about safe sex and provide free HIV testing to attendees.

Hosts for the event included the Center for Latino Community Health at CSULB, Salud a la Vida! and Bienestar Human Services.

"The whole plan is to spread awareness of HIV and AIDS," said Luis Angel Cendejas, a graduate student in public health and one of the founders for the community health project.

The HIV testing event is open to all students and provides a quick blood test with accurate results. Should the test be HIV positive, Bienestar also provides a continued examination at their location on Cherry Avenue and 15th Street.

Student turnout for the event was adequate for those working, with around 20 people accepting examinations for HIV. Event workers Javier Mondar and Hector Montes engaged passing students in casual conversation and introduced the group's mission while offering snacks and - as their mission promotes - condoms.

"[There were] lots of nice people, everyone was open," said Mondar.

CLCH representatives and the Bienestar HIV testing van were found between Peterson Hall 1 and the Fine Arts 4 buildings. They provided condoms, HIV testing by licensed physicians from Bienestar Human Services and invitations to workshop events for continued education on safe, responsible sex and substance use.

> "We want to take the taboo away because sex is something that isn't really talked about."
>
> *-Luis Angel Cendejas, Graduate student*

Cendejas and CLCH started this event in 2015 with the mission of informing the campus community about safe sex to reduce the number of HIV infections in the Los Angeles county. Latinos between the ages of 18 and 24 years old are the most affected, according to research by Bienestar Human Services.

Funding for the event came from Salud a la Vida!, which is government funded by SAMHSA - the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. This allowed the three groups to cooperate and push sexual education beyond the classroom.

Cendejas succinctly described his mission as "students helping students". The project staff are young, with members aging around their mid-twenties and attending CSULB.

Latinos aren't the only group that CLCH intends to help. Cendejas wishes to help any and all who have questions or would like testing regarding their sexual health.

CLCH holds workshops for students interested in learning more about HIV; while they do have a focus on latinos for a cultural similarity, CLCH is open to helping people from all walks of life.

Cendejas noted the barrier that one's culture may have regarding sex. Cultural traditions, especially those in Latino or Hispanic families are more conservative when it comes to talking about sex and contraceptives so discussion on those topics is not common.

"We want to take the taboo away because sex is something that isn't really talked about," Cendejas said.

CLCH is also responsible for providing the the ample amount of condoms seen in restrooms at the University Student Union and the Student Recreation and Wellness Center. It was Cendejas that made the call to make condoms more accessible to students by providing them on a larger scale.



Salud a la Vida! website

The Bienestar HIV testing van was on upper campus Tuesday.

Condoms were already provided by Student Health Services but Cendejas felt that it was not enough. He held focus groups with students when he found that they did not want to walk to the health center or be seen entering the building for fear of being judged by others.

Through the focus groups, Cendejas realized that a solution may lie in a larger provision of condoms in multiple spots around campus. Cendejas later spoke with former ASI Vice President Miriam Hernandez and local condom company, LA Condoms, to start the program to encourage students to "Use Condom Sense," as the project's slogan promotes.

Since the project's start, Cendejas had soon created a new demand for condoms on campus as dispensaries quickly run empty throughout the week.

"They go like hotcakes," Cendejas said. "We fill them like 30 times a week."

Condoms are available throughout the semester for students and HIV testing is scheduled at select dates. Students who still want to get tested can visit CLCH in Social Sciences/Public Administration 24 to contact Bienestar for an appointment, which is also free.

STORIES

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that black women are mostly cast in what are seen as stereotypical roles such as, "the angry black woman," "baby mamma," "gold diggers" or a side character role. In what are considered the "positive" representations, looks are often prioritized.

"There needs to be more multifaceted representation of black women in media," Wilson said.

After the presentation, the event was opened up to more discussion. Higgins had attendees split into groups to discuss some questions about what pressures this might be put on black women from social media, if the images portrayed are mostly negative and how there can be a more equitable representation.

The conversations among groups got into how there is not one type of black person and all need to be represented fairly – and, for women especially, representation needs to focus on more than looks.

"I'm not every black person and there's nothing wrong with the a different black person that I am," Cazine Wilson, a second year English Education major, said.

The discussions were then brought back to the whole room to share what was discussed in each group and add anymore questions or thoughts to the discussion.

"Each culture is only focusing on their own," Spencer Butler, a senior sociology and Africana studies double major said. "How can others meet and become allies to help each other?"

The event ended with a discussion on how different cultures can come together and understand each other instead of just focusing on intra-community issues. When it comes to events and discussions like Black Herstories, often only people of that culture take part of it.

Wilson said that, to be an ally, people must, "not only be a supporter but also [step] up to the plate and educate other people and [call] them out on when they stuff that might not be right."

* Paid Advertisement *

What Your Teachers Never Taught You
Your Safety and Judicial Overreach
Dr. George A. Kuck (galbertk@aol.com)

Do words have any meaning anymore? President Trump (and President Obama) identified that people from seven predominately Moslem countries form the core of a terrorist threat to the United States. ISIL has stated it is going to infiltrate this refugee population with fighters. This is a serious threat.

President Trump issued an executive order to limit immigration from these countries until we could ensure that terrorists were not included in those admitted. In a judicial coup, a US Circuit Judge in Washington State put a hold on this action. This unconstitutional hold was upheld by a panel of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The law is clear. The controlling law is Section 212(f) of the Immigration and Nationality Act "Whenever the President finds that the entry of any aliens or of any class of aliens into the United States would be detrimental to the interests of the United States, he may by proclamation, and for such period as he shall deem necessary, suspend the entry of all aliens or any class of aliens as immigrants or nonimmigrants, or impose on the entry of aliens any restrictions he may deem to be appropriate."

You ought to be afraid of all judicial overreach. For example, you are driving to school. You are pulled over by a policeman for drunk driving. It is the middle of the day and you have been studying for finals. You do not smoke pot and have not had a drink in months so your driving is not chemically impaired. Nevertheless, the policeman gives you a breathalyzer test that you pass. He still insists that you are drunk so he takes you into the station to test from drugs. No drugs. He takes you before the judge who says that you had caffeine in your system so you are guilty of driving under the influence! He is the judge so you spend the next three days in jail, missing your final exams.

Judicial overreach is never fair. It destroys the meaning of words and keeps us from understanding the law. The constitution gives the method of holding judges responsible for their actions. It is called impeachment. Those judges who vote based upon their political philosophy and not on law and the constitution should be removed from office.

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Photos by Jose De Castro | Daily 49er

Studio art major, Daniela Ordaz stops to take a closer look of "Portrait of a Grandmother" by Robert Nehemiah as they walk through the Gatov West gallery.

ART GALLERY

Finding diamonds in the rough

Artists use both materials and people found on the streets to inspire their exhibit.

By Zulema Suarez
Staff Writer

The student art galleries at Cal State Long Beach are home to a collaboration between a student artist painting abstract profiles on canvas, and one who paints portraits on abstract surfaces.

Senior BFA in drawing and painting students Elmer Guevara and Robert Nehemiah present "Immaterial," an art exhibit focusing on irrelevance of people and objects in today's society.

Guevara and Nehemiah unveiled their works of art on Sunday in the Gatov West gallery on campus.

The artwork of Guevara consists of five profiles of homeless people: Greg, Carlos, Lala, Nikolai and Anna.

He met, interviewed, and photographed them in their comfort zones, then painted them from the many photographs he took.

There are portraits of people, by Nehemiah, that influenced his detachment from superficiality.

His paintings are on objects that are normally overlooked, including scraps of wood, metal, cardboard and unprimed tarps.

Guevara, who grew up and lives in South L.A., paints abstract portraits of homeless people from his area.

"There's been more cases of homelessness in my area and I took notice of that. I wanted to go out and find subjects I could take portraits of to bring more awareness to the issue," Guevara said.

"I went out and met these people and interviewed them and based on their interviews and photographs that I collected, I put together these compositions. So, it's based on my experience of what they're like, their psyche and their environments."

In his piece, "Greg," Guevara mentions that Greg was extremely giddy and unable to stand still during his interview.

The portrait portrays Greg with several different motions around his face and legs, making it look as if he were moving.

In "Nickolai," the same kind of structure is used because Nickolai was a recovering heroin addict, also unable to remain still.

Nehemiah's portraits are all on unprimed surfaces that are not found useful or beautiful to the public.

He focuses more on the object that the artwork is created on because it is generally an overlooked object.

"My artwork is on scrap pieces I found all over L.A.," Nehemiah said.

"I did portraits of people that influenced my detachment from materialism onto objects that are irrelevant and all the pieces are unprimed meaning that they are not meant to last forever. And from this I learned that not only are the surfaces temporary, but the people are temporary, so it was definitely emotional for me in several ways to make this realization."

Nehemiah also explains how his and Guevara's work correlates.

"His work focuses on irrelevant people, per se, and mine focuses on irrelevant objects," Nehemiah said.



"Anna" by Elmer Guevara is an abstract depiction of a South L.A. homeless women named Anna.

"Many people, especially in a higher class, nicer area ignore homeless people like they aren't even people, and in the same way, many people ignore the scraps of these objects because they don't matter to them."

Guevara and Nehemiah's work will remain in the student art gallery until Feb. 16 from noon - 5 p.m.

CAMPUS EVENTS

Condom day keeps STDs at bay

Campus organizations are making sure students stay protected by handing out free condoms.

By Sol Mendez
Staff Writer



Stephen Oduntan | Daily 49er

Representatives from Student Health Services were out in Maxon Plaza yesterday handing out free condoms and offering information on STDs.

Feb. 14 not only marked Valentine's Day, but also National Condom Day – non-coincidentally – and just like many other campuses across the U.S., Cal State Long Beach joined in on the annual event by handing out free condoms.

CSULB's efforts to honor the less popular of the two holidays included various booths from different organizations that handed out not just condoms, but also contraceptives, female condoms and lubricant.

The Health Resource Center, who had a booth set up for the occasion, had already handed out 100 condoms by the early afternoon.

Coordinator for the HRC Heidi Girling expressed her excitement for the date.

"It's perfect for Valentine's Day," she said. "It increases awareness about the use of condoms and shows students how to use them, to protect themselves."

National Condom Day, which originated from an AIDS support group in the U.S. during the late 1980's, was created with the intent to serve an educational purpose.

The women's health & wellbeing services, which offers various clinical services and counseling for women, further explained that the intent for the day was to, "promote condom use and educate people about the need to practice safe sex."

Moreover, CSULB's Center for Latino Community already encourages the practice of safe sex by providing free condoms in condom dispensers located in campus bathrooms; however, despite the national day promoting the importance of safe sex, the country is seeing a rise in STDs and STI's.

Data from the American Sexual Health Association showed that STIs were the highest among the 15-24 age group.

The Sexual Health Association also found that among the age group, Chlamydia was the most notable STI, particularly affecting young women.

Girling also stated that various STIs were indeed on the rise; however, condom use within the campus had also been increasing.

From the 2015-16 academic year 3,540 condoms had been given out and by the current 2016-17 year, 5,600 had currently been handed out.

Girling also stressed that free condoms are always provided by the Health Resource Center and encouraged people to stop by if needed.

Testing is also provided, and for those who may have already contacted an STD or STI, alternative courses are provided, such as certified STD counseling through the HRC.

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VALENTINE'S DAY

Love is in the air and in the movement

With Valentine's Day over, we are reminded that the need for love and compassion is in demand 365 days a year.

By Estela Garcia
Staff Writer



Illustration by Miranda Andrade-Ceja

Valentine's Day is over. Couples can stop pretending they like each other and carry on with their lives. Singles can stop faking their loneliness and continue on in their peaceful solitude. Sell your wedding bands, burn your fresh-picked roses — oh wait ... that isn't how it works, is it?

The constant obsession with dating and relationship statuses continues all year. But why do Americans spend $18.2 billion on chocolates, presents and dinner reservations, according to a report from the National Retail Federation, to emphasize that we love each other just one day out of the year?

This idea of celebrating each other and shared love should be an everyday action that needs to be practiced in real time. And in 2017, it couldn't be needed more.

So much tragedy has occurred in the last few years that it's easy to put selfish needs before anything else. Hard times prompt the question: where is the love? Violence stricken by public shootings across the world; racial discrimination and segregation remains unchecked — images of innocent lives being torn apart continue unnoticed, forgotten.

Every day, people are subject to violence because of their lifestyle choices and the conditions they live in. This terror seems like dystopian fiction, but it is what has led many to give up hope in positive revolution.

We have rewritten the definition of love. It remains a proclamation of passionate feeling one has toward another person, object or idea. And new ways of supporting one another through empathy and direct action have extended our ideas of love and compassion.

We have seen the amount of protesting and organizing the has happened in the last three years. People protest against injustice and stand up for their freedoms. Marches and protests are powerful tools used to bring attention to certain social issues.

When police violence against black individuals erupted, the Black Lives Matter movement sparked a new era of social activism. The marches for women's rights, immigration reform, even the election of a new president, all represent a society coming together to display a form of comradery.

As a self proclaimed hopeless romantic, I believe there is light wherever there is darkness. Loving each other is what makes us get up in the morning, what makes us work hard and what allows us to continue on.

The need for change in this country does not make love an outdated concept. If anything, love incites change and vice versa.

Although some deem protests as demonstrations of hate and militant resistance — they are actually symbols of solidarity. Whether it's standing up for another person's life or representing populations of marginalized people or helping others stand up for their rights, putting someone else before ourselves is an act of love that can never be doubted.

This is what we should celebrate everyday, not only on Valentine's.

We need to celebrate the potential of radical love; love that sees no color, no borders and no time. And yes that sounds completely and utterly cliché but it is the truth. Nothing can change that. No laws or religion can ever contain the care that exists in this world.

We hear stories of families being separated, of children losing hope or of people left in the unknown, disappeared and done in. We live in a time where we're told to expect the unexpected, even if it is harmful.

We each have a way of looking at the world and I'm sorry to say that they are not all the same. But, therein lies a unique beauty that gives us the potential to welcome natural diversity.

Still, because we view the world so differently when it comes to race, religion, gender, sexuality — the list goes on — what someone sees as a positive display of affection or love may be seen by someone else as a challenge to themselves and their beliefs.

We hold our values so close to our hearts and minds that we push away any idea that differs it. Negativity is created by the neglect of others.

Nevertheless, negativity can always be erased and it has been done so before. The evidence lies in the many acts that we have been able to witness in our everyday lives:

The people who identify as LGBTQ who hold hands while walking down the street.

The people who defend Muslim-American people when they are subject to racial profiling.

The person who immigrated from Mexico for a chance at a better life or a better way to support the people they love.

The student who learned about the world's indifferences and wanted to ignite change with her knowledge.

These acts of love and so many more are what create issues and conflicts within conventional values.

But, that's where we get it wrong. Love is simple and pure. We mess it all up when we begin to apply what one or someone believes their definition of love is better than the rest.

Love isn't right or wrong. There are different conceptions of love and we may not all agree with one another. Love is respecting each other and putting our own selves second to someone we care about.

Valentine's Day is much more than a red-heart holiday about romance. It may have started way back in the 14th century when some guy named Geoffrey Chaucer thought it'd be a good idea to let those in love smother their love onto other people's faces.

But we have evolved. Yes, we still have cards — and flowers and candy. Now, we live in world where symbols of devotion, demonstrated through direct action and solidarity mean so much more.

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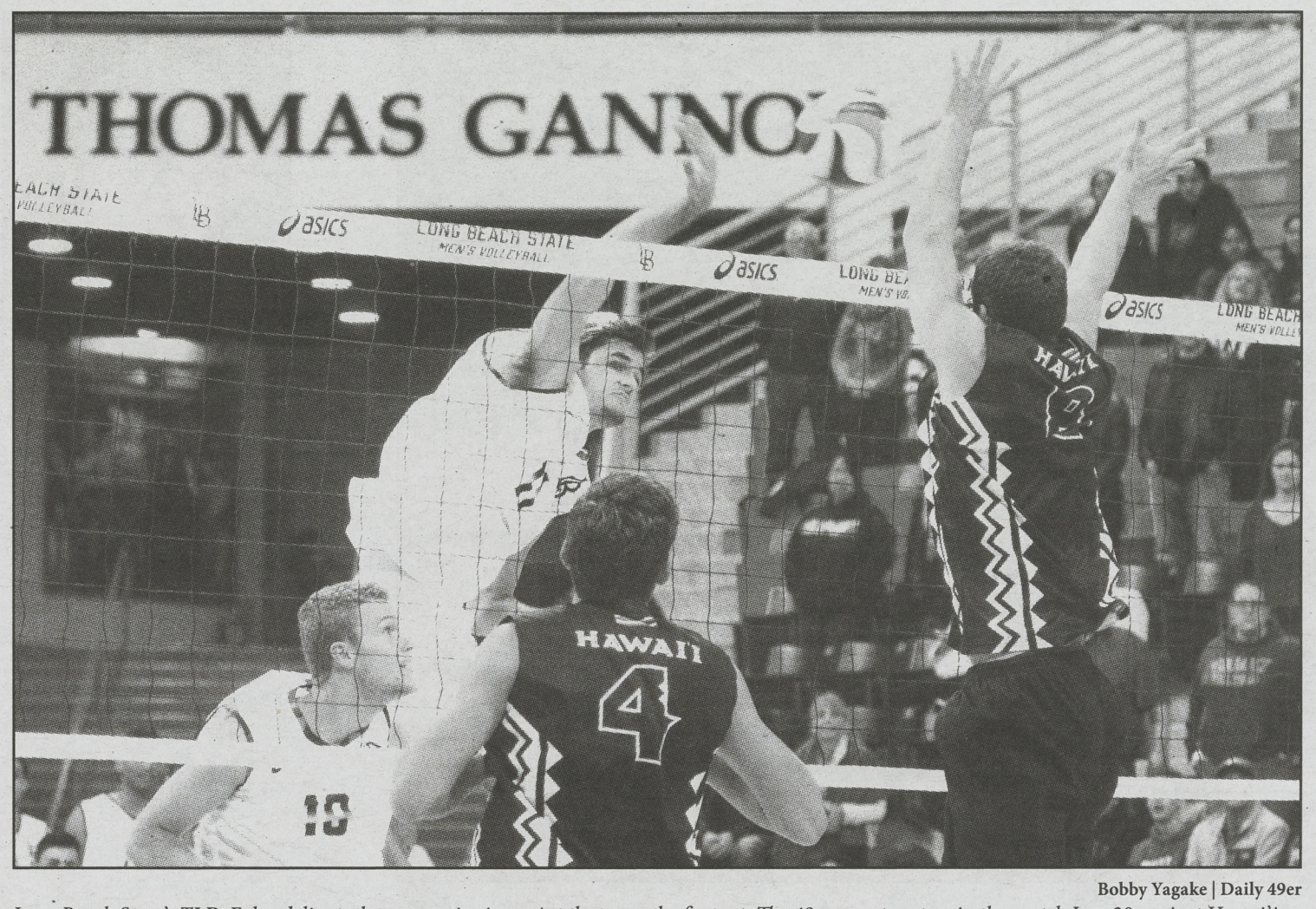
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Letters Policy: All letters and e-mail must bear the phone number of the writer and must be no more than 300 words. The Daily 49er reserves the right to edit letters for publication in regard to space.



Bobby Yagake | Daily 49er

Long Beach State's TJ DeFalco delivers the game-winning point that won the first set. The 49ers went on to win the match Jan. 20 against Hawai'i.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

49ers look to extend win streak

Long Beach State heads to Santa Barbara to take on the No. 8 Gauchos.

By Matthew Simon
Sports Editor

Before the Long Beach State men's volleyball team lost to No. 1 Ohio State Jan. 28, it was ranked No. 4 in the nation.

Now heading up north to take on No. 12 UC Santa Barbara (6-7, 3-7) today, the 49ers (10-2, 6-1) are ranked No. 2 in the nation and No.1 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation rankings.

Since losing to the Buckeyes, LBSU has been dominant with four consecutive 3-0 victories against Pepperdine, Stanford, UC Irvine and UC San Diego.

LBSU is led by sophomore hitters TJ DeFalco and Kyle Ensing, who have combined for 304 of the team's 572 kills.

DeFalco is averaging 3.98 kills per set while Ensing is averaging 3.34.

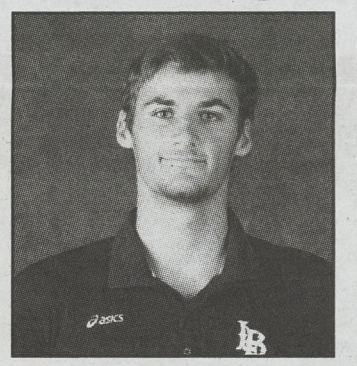
The man behind DeFalco and Ensing's success is fellow sophomore setter Josh Tuaniga. Tuaniga has been vital for the team, as he is on his way to 451 assists this year.

Tuaniga is connecting on .503 percent of his set attempts while averaging 11.56 assists per set.

As the 49ers have been hitting their stride since conference play began, the Gauchos are on a six-game losing streak after a five-set loss to Stanford Saturday.

UCSB is led by senior outside hitter Jacob Delson, who leads the team with 216 kills this season – averaging 4.41 kills per set.

Following Delson is sophomore outside hitter Corey Chavers with 113 kills.



TJ DEFALCO
OUTSIDE HITTER

Last season, LBSU swept UCSB March 23 to clinch the program's 17th 20-win season.

2017 MPSF STANDINGS | MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

		MPSF GAMES		ALL GAMES	
		W	L	W	L
1.	Long Beach State	7	1	11	2
2.	BYU	5	1	10	2
3.	Stanford	5	2	8	4
4.	Hawai'i	5	2	12	2
5.	UCLA	7	3	10	4
6.	UC Irvine	6	4	9	5
7.	Pepperdine	3	3	5	4
8.	UCSB	3	7	6	7
9.	CSUN	2	5	9	5
10.	UC San Diego	2	6	5	7
11.	USC	2	7	3	9
12.	Cal Baptist	1	7	3	9

2017 STANDINGS | MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

	NATIONAL STANDINGS	RECORD	
		W	L
1.	Ohio State	13	0
2.	Long Beach State	11	2
3.	BYU	10	2
4.	Hawai'i	12	2
5.	UCLA	10	4
6.	Stanford	8	4
7.	Lewis	9	3
8.	UC Irvine	9	5
9.	Pepperdine	5	4
10.	Loyola-Chicago	7	4
11.	Ball State	11	2
12.	UC Santa Barbara	6	7
13.	Penn State	8	4
14.	Cal State Northridge	9	5
15.	George Mason	5	5

UPCOMING GAMES:

LB vs. UCSB
When: Today, 7 p.m.
Where: Santa Barbara

LB vs. UCLA Bruins
When: Thursday, 4 p.m.
Where: Los Angeles

LB vs. Lancers
When: Monday, 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid

LB vs. USC
When: Feb. 24, 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid

LB vs. UC Irvine
When: March 1, 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid

LB vs. Tritons
When: March 3, 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid

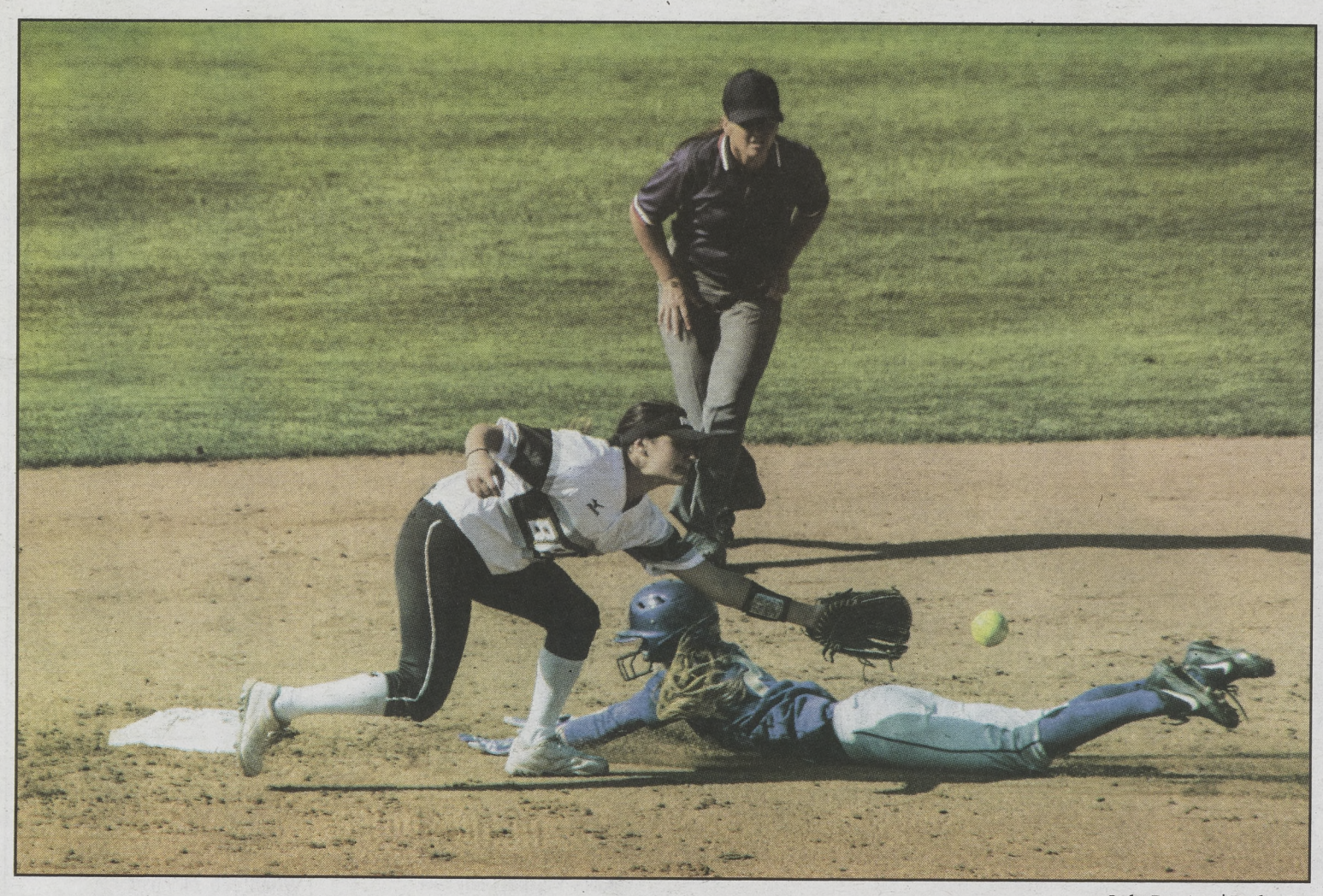
LB vs. Mason Patriots
When: March 10, 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid

LB vs. Ramblers
When: March 11, 7 p.m.
Where: Walter Pyramid

LB vs. CSUN Matadors
When: March 17, 7 p.m.
Where: Northridge

LB vs. Pioneers
When: March 18, 7 p.m.
Where: Gold Mine

LB vs. BYU
When: March 24, 5 p.m.
Where: Provo, Utah



Luke Ramirez | Daily 49er

Nichole Fry isn't able to stretch far enough as Long Beach State's pick-off attempt fails during 49ers 9-1 loss Tuesday against University of Washington.

SOFTBALL

Errors plague LBSU in 9-1 loss

LBSU is unable to overcome mistakes against No. 8 Huskies Tuesday at LBSU Softball Complex.

By Estela Garcia
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day had a rough start for the Long Beach State softball team, as it were handed its second loss of the season Tuesday morning in a 9-1 loss to No. 8 University of Washington at the LBSU Softball Complex.

The Beach put up one more error than hits in the game, committing four errors and only coming up with three hits.

The Huskies struck early in the game, scoring four of their nine runs in the first two innings.

Starting pitcher for the 49ers, senior Christina Clermont, got the loss and exited the game after only two innings of work. She was relieved by freshman Devyn Magnett, who pitched three scoreless innings.

Junior Madi Schreyer got the win for Washington as she went six and a third innings with three strikeouts and one earned run.

Trysten Melhart stole two bases for the Huskies and was one of the four Washington players with at least two hits.



Luke Ramirez | Daily 49er

Long Beach State's third baseman Mattie Scheele prepares to throw during the 49ers 9-1 loss to No. 8 Washington Tuesday morning.

For the Beach, junior LT Torres reached base three times; on a single, a walk and a hit by pitch. But, the only run brought in for the 49ers was provided by pinch runner junior Rachel Loera in the fourth inning.

Freshman Aniesa Maulupe, who recorded her first college home run in Saturday's win against San Diego State, went 0-2 with a walk and a strikeout.



LAUREN LOMBARDI
ONE HIT, ONE WALK

The Beach continues to struggle against No.8 University of Washington. The last time in 2011 the two teams faced each other, the Huskies beat the Beach 14-1.

While the defense for the 49ers had a rough start, plays made by sophomores Kelli Finan at third base and Summer Pohl in right field throughout the game kept runs off the board.

The ladies on the softball field at the Beach hope to pick up from this loss and continue onto a four-game series this weekend against both Utah and CSU Bakersfield, all part of their ongoing homestand to start the season.

Two games will be played on both Friday and Saturday, weather permitting, starting at 9 a.m. against Utah.

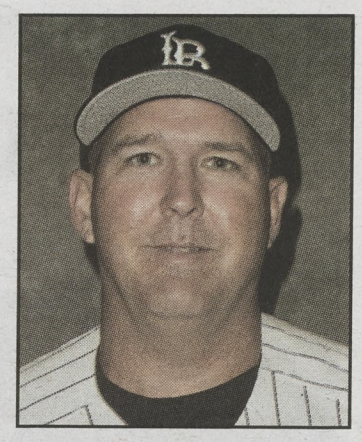
UPCOMING GAMES:

LB VS. U
When: Friday, 9a.m.
Where: LBSU Softball Complex

LB VS. CSUF
When: Friday, 11:30 a.m.
Where: LBSU Softball Complex

LB VS. U
When: Saturday, 11:30 a.m.
Where: LBSU Softball Complex

LB VS. CSUF
When: Saturday, 2 p.m.
Where: LBSU Softball Complex



TROY BUCKLEY

BASEBALL

Getting call to coach 2017 USA team

Long Beach State head coach will coach USA Collegiate National Team pitchers.

By Matthew Simon
Sports Editor

USA Baseball has announced that Long Beach State baseball coach Troy Buckley will be joining the 2017 Collegiate National Team coaching staff this summer as a pitching coach.

Buckley will be joining former Dirtbags Hall of Fame player Dave Snow, who is making his fifth appearance as a USA Baseball coach, to guide the team's pitchers.

The coaching staff will be led by UCLA's head coach John Savage, who was named the manager of the team in December.

"We are excited to have this talented coaching staff led by Coach Savage take the reigns of the 2017 Collegiate National Team," USA Baseball Executive Director and CEO Paul Seiler said in a statement. "Each of these coaches have done an amazing job with their respective programs and we are thrilled to bring their leadership and expertise to our team this year."

Buckley won't be the only Big West head coach on the coaching staff, as he is joined by Cal State Fullerton's head coach Rick Vanderhook and Cal Poly's head coach Larry Lee.

Vanderhook will serve as the team's hitting and third base coach, while Lee will be the team's first base coach.

The team will begin training at the USA Baseball National Training Complex in Cary, North Carolina before competing against teams in the Coastal Plain League from June 20-26.

Along with playing teams in the CPL, the USA Collegiate National Team will host international friendship series against Chinese Taipei and Cuba in North Carolina.